

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 12, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 1986

MILITARY DRILL VERY PROBABLE

College May Drop Athletics
and Train Male Stu-
dents for Soldiers.

DEPENDS ON CONGRESS

Most of College Faculty Favor
it if Congress Takes Wil-
son's Course.

That Alma college is in favor of military drill, if a proper drillmaster can be secured, seems to be the opinion of most of the members of the faculty of Alma college, and there is a probability that military training will soon take the place of athletics at the Presbyterian institution what will be done depends upon the action that congress takes.

The fore part of this week Dean Mitchell sent out letters to the various Michigan intercollegiate institutions asking them what their opinion was regarding the dropping of athletics and substituting of military drill, because of the war situation and the seeming probability that some of universal military service will be adopted shortly. Replies to these letters have not yet been received.

If some form of universal service instituted in this country it will be practically a certainty that Alma college will drop athletics and take up drill, as a means of aiding in preparing the young men in college for army service should they be called upon. A capable drillmaster will be one thing that the college will want should the drill be taken up.

President Crooks of Alma college, while not a believer in war by any means, feels that the United States should conduct an aggressive campaign and send an army to Europe, which will mean that many thousands of college men of the country would be called to arms. He has also stated that before the war he would not have favored universal service, and that he cannot believe that it will be necessary once this war is over. He said that military service would make all classes of American citizens responsible for the nation's success.

Dean James E. Mitchell, Professor Notestein, Professor West, Dr. Bober, Professor Albert P. Cook, Dr. Brookshire and Dr. MacCurdy are members of the faculty in favor of military training, now, if at no other time. Dr. Randals is in favor of it to a certain extent.

"Salvation Joan"—Idlehour Sunday.

SHOOTING PRACTICE

Two Young Men Said to Have Shot
up Sugar Bush.

Tin pans, buckets, etc., at the A. J. Hall sugar bush, near Alma, all contained holes the other day, following an interesting target practice staged by two young men, said to answer to the names of Sudorff and Wilcox.

It seems that the young fellows had nothing more important to do than to go out and practice with a gun, in the endeavor to show each other just how they expected to shoot down Germans once they had joined the army. Evidently, they chose the buckets, tin pans, etc., to be the mythical Germans which were to be used for targets and, whether they aimed straight or not, are said to have put a large number of the buckets and pans out of commission, by drilling holes through them, so that they resembled sieves instead of good buckets and pans.

Officers were notified of the attack on the buckets and pans, and trouble seems to be in store for the two young men. Deputy Sheriff Wheeler stated to the Record reporter yesterday that the young men would probably settle for the damage done, rather than have the affair go farther, and possibly cause considerable more trouble, and possibly no small amount of inconvenience to them.

Young Sudorff, who is said to figure in the shooting up of the sugar bush, buckets and pans, is the same young man who recently paid a fine for having jammed his fist against a college student.

DENTAL INSPECTION

By the authority of the board of education a general dental inspection of the pupils in the grades of our public schools will soon be made. The dentists of the city have generously offered their services for this work free of charge. If the examination reveals defects in the child's mouth, a blank conveying this information will be sent by the teacher to the parent. Clean and sound teeth are essential to the health of every child and efficient school work can be done only when a child is physically sound. The board is of the opinion that if the inspection results in physical and mental improvement of the children, their action will be fully justified. The examination is not compulsory. Parents who object to the examination will please notify the superintendent of schools.

"Pearl of the Army" is coming.

WILLETT DEAD

Former Gratiot Prosecutor and U. of
M. Regent Died in West.

Judge Charles J. Willett, a former Gratiot resident, but for a number of years a resident of Pasadena, California, died at his home in that city last week Thursday, April 5th, following a three weeks' illness.

Judge Willett was born in Essex, New York, June 5, 1849. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1871 and shortly after took up the practice of law in St. Louis, where he was active in civic and political affairs. He served as city treasurer, mayor and city attorney of our sister city, and later served as prosecuting attorney of Gratiot county. He always displayed a keen interest in educational matters and served for ten years as a member of the school board at St. Louis and for eight years was a regent of the University of Michigan.

Judge Willett went west in the early nineties and continued the pace that he had set in Gratiot county. He was a member of the board of education of Pasadena, vice-president of the board of trustees of Throop college, president of the Pasadena Hospital association for ten years, city attorney of Pasadena, a judge, etc.

Many of the older residents of Alma and Gratiot county will remember the judge.

GIVE ENTERTAINMENT FOR RED CROSS SOCIETY

Opera House To Be Scene of an
Attraction for Society Two
Nights.

A benefit show will be given at Wright Opera House Wednesday and Thursday evenings, April 18th and 19th. Proceeds will go to the Red Cross society.

A better cause could not be found than to Red Cross, and the plays to be given should attract people and fill the houses both nights. The Red Cross means much to the army, and it needs support now in preparing for the service that it must render in the war that Uncle Sam has now engaged in.

The program to be given consists of the Scotch Maids, the world's greatest dancers; Baby Kathleen, the little child wonder; Millard Reid, dramatic artist and comedian; Louise Millard, lyric soprano and dramatic reader; and Gordon McDowell, that funny gink.

Seats will be on sale at Brunner's drug store, at 25 cents for children and 35 cents for the grown ups.

KRESS ENLISTED

Star Athlete of A. H. S. Joined Army
First of the Week.

Theodore Kress, better known as "Ted," former high school athlete, and just recently elected captain of the Ithaca high school track team, on Sunday took an examination at the local recruiting office and passed favorably. He will leave next week for Grand Rapids for the final examination.

Kress expects to join the aviation corps, when he has gained sufficient experience. He will enter the signal corps first. Kress will be eighteen years of age when he is called to the colors, which was given.

After going to Ithaca last fall Kress was one of the star athletes in Alma high school, and was a member of the football, basketball and track teams, in all of which he was a star. He was elected to lead the high school track team this spring, but was prevented when his parents moved to Ithaca and he entered Ithaca high school. He was recently elected to lead the track team at the high school because of his known track ability.

REAL ESTATE OFFICE

Two Alma Men Will Work in Real
Estate Business.

H. M. Page and J. Grover have taken the west part of the Mills building, formerly used by the Gray & Gray cigar store, and will in the future conduct real estate business there.

H. M. Page has been in Alma for six years and three of the six years has been spent in the real estate business in the city and his end of the business will be the handling of all city work which goes to that office.

J. Grover, who is making his initial venture into the real estate business, has lived here for years, and is thoroughly in touch with the real estate business in the city and his end of the business will be the handling of all city work which goes to that office.

"WAKE UP AMERICA"

All cities of 10,000 population and over will gather in large mass meetings on next Wednesday, April 18th, to celebrate patriotic day. The slogan is "Wake up America."

The beautiful piece in sheet music, as well as a fine Victrola record may be found at the up-to-date Victrola store of the C. A. Sawkins Piano Company, opposite Idlehour theatre. (86-11-c)

TAXES WILL BE COLLECTED TWICE

Part of Tax Will Be Collect-
ed in June and Balance
in December.

CITY NEEDS DEMAND CHANGE

July Roll Will Be for City and
the December for the State
Tax.

The city of Alma will in the future depart from the time honored custom of collecting taxes here just once a year, and from now on the taxes will be collected twice each year, once in July and once in December.

For various reasons, regarding the welfare of the city as a whole the Common Council at its meeting last week Wednesday night passed an ordinance to the effect, which is to have immediate effect.

The tax to be collected in July will be the city tax and this tax roll will be known to the public as the July tax roll. The one to be collected in December will be known as the December tax roll, and at this time the state, county and school tax will be collected by the city.

Under the ordinance as passed by the council the supervisors are to make and complete an assessment of all real estate and personal property once each year. The supervisors have been given instructions by the council to be busy at once and prepare the city tax roll for the July tax, which will be collected for the first time this year in the summer.

There is every probability that many assessments in Alma will get a considerable boost this year. Alma is said to have many vacant lots which are being held at prices many times what they are assessed for, and it is said for the intention to get the assessments on these lots raised this year. Some other property which is held high and which has a high rental capacity, will also be given a good boost, according to reports.

It is apparent at once that the collecting of taxes twice a year will furnish at least a slight benefit for the property owner who find it difficult to get his tax money each winter. By paying a portion of it in the summer when his living expenses are not so high, he will without question find it easier to raise the money for the rest in the winter.

Important reasons relating to the proposed bonding issue for the city are said to be behind the move in collecting taxes twice a year. It is said that the move is necessary, if Alma is not to be held up for another year, in the matter of municipal development.

TEACHERS INSTITUTE

Gratiot Teachers Will Meet Here
April 21st.

The ninety-sixth semi-annual meeting of the Gratiot County Teachers' association will be held in the Alma high school auditorium on Saturday, April 21, 1917.

President Charles McKenney of the Michigan State Normal and Professor George B. Randals of Alma college will be the principal speakers at the meeting, McKenney being the conductor and Randals being the instructor.

The program follows:

8:45 Selection—High School Orchestra.

9:00 "How I Know Teaching is Not a Failure"—Prof. Geo. B. Randals.

9:45 "Some Teachers I Have Known"—Pres. Chas. McKenney.

10:30 Recreational and Enrollment.

10:45 Chorus—Intermediate Grades.

10:55 "Helping Pupils to Study"—Prof. Geo. B. Randals.

11:45 Noon Intermission.

Saturday Afternoon.

1:00 Selection—High School Chorus.

1:15 Reading of Minutes.

1:20 Election of Officers.

1:35 "The Motivation of School Work"—Pres. Chas. McKenney.

2:20 "What Other Nations May Teach Us"—Prof. Geo. B. Randals.

3:00 Recreational.

3:10 "Keep Growing"—Pres. Chas. McKenney.

4:00 Adjournment.

O. E. S. CHAPTER ELECTS

At a meeting of the local chapter of the order of Eastern Star, held last week Friday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Worthy Matron—Mrs. May Ellison.

Worthy Patron—William J. Huff.

Assistant Matron—Mrs. Carrie Fuller.

Secretary—Mrs. Flora Day.

Treasurer—Alma Sand.

Conductor—Marie Bistline.

Assistant Conductor—Ruby Huff.

The officers elected will be installed at the meeting to be held Tuesday evening, April 17th.

HOLD OPENING

The annual opening of the Gratiot & Scott furniture store was held last week Friday and Saturday evenings, during which time several hundred people from Alma and vicinity visited the store and inspected the large display of furniture, which was tastefully arranged for the occasion. The opening featured the popular period furniture very strongly, although the other designs were much in evidence. Saturday night the visitors were entertained by an orchestra, secured for the evening. Carnations were presented to the ladies who attended the opening.

ALMA HIGH WILL MEET IONIA AND BIG RAPIDS

Triangular Debate Will Be Held
Next Week Friday by the
Three Schools.

The biggest debate of the year in connection with our high school will be held in the high school auditorium on Friday, April 20th, at 8 p. m. sharp. The other two corners of the contest are at Big Rapids and Ionia. The negative teams travel—Alma to Ionia, Ionia to Big Rapids and Big Rapids to Alma.

Our school sends a very strong team to Ionia, and one which ought to make its opponents feel very uncomfortable. The boys to make the trip are Clarence Pettyjohn, Vance Bowman and George Olmsted, with Roger Zinn as alternate. These boys have been working hard and will undoubtedly line up strong against Ionia. But the most exciting contest, and probably the closest of the circuit, will be held in Alma; and the people of this city should consider themselves fortunate in being on the scene of action. When it was heard that Clyde Cramer, formerly of Alma, has been coaching the Big Rapids aggregation, and is coming down here determined to win, the high school team realizes what it is up against.

Either Dr. Crooks or Professor Cook will preside as chairman, and the judges will be equally well chosen. Superintendent Fewless of Lakeview will officiate, and other prospects are Superintendent Gurnard of Mt. Pleasant, and Professor Lenzelers of the same place.

Never has such an interest in debating been displayed before as this year. By elimination Alma has picked out two teams of about equal strength, and the boys pride themselves in saying that they are quite well informed on the subject in hand. L. E. Vander Zalm has been coaching the locals and they have found his experience, absorbed at the University of Michigan, very useful.

The high school expects a large audience from the college for various reasons; one is that the boys may be material for future college teams, and another is that the Big Rapids team is being coached by a former college debater, Mr. Cramer.

Alma's team, which will take the affirmative side of the question at hand, is composed of Lee Sharrar, Frank Notestein and Robert Wyatt, with Willard Beshgetoor as alternate.

Come out and help Alma high make an name for herself in argumentation. Don't forget the time, the place, and—the girl. The high school furnishes the first two, you furnish the last.

SUPERVISORS ORGANIZE

Gratiot Board Held Three-Day Ses-
sion This Week.

The Gratiot County Board of Supervisors which has been meeting in Ithaca for the past three days has organized, and C. J. Chambers is again the chairman of the board.

In making the appointments for his committee Chambers had the growth of Alma in mind, evidently, as the chairmanships of three of the fourteen committees came to Alma supervisors. Fuller heads the committee on resolutions; Plovman, the committee on salaries; and Helman, the committee number two, on claims.

Alma's four supervisors each drew places on two committees, and eight of the fourteen committees have one Alma man on them. Chambers not appointing any two Alma men on the same committee.

Following are the committees: Equalization—Locke, Going, Fuller, Haines, Hamilton, Coffin and Long.

Claims No. 1—Evey, Houseman and Heisler.

Claims No. 2—Helman, Daniel and Reed.

County Officers—Folkert, Himes and Goodes.

Taxation—Daniel, Evey and Hubbell.

County Buildings—Peach, Vanderbeek and Deline.

Drains—Heisler, Coffin, Long, Sebring and Gulick.

Roads and Bridges—Hamilton, Daniel and Locke.

Fines—Haines, Hubbell and Goodes.

Salaries—Plovman, Houseman and Emery.

Printing—Going, Folkert and Houseman.

Cancellation—Vanderbeek, Helman, Deline, Sebring and Gulick.

Resolutions—Fuller, Reed and Peach.

NINE ITHACA MEN ENLIST

High School Students Left
This Morning For The
U. S. Navy.

WERE GIVEN GREAT SEND-OFF

Local High School Students Join
Ithaca Delegation in Big
Farewell at Depot.

Nine young men from Ithaca, the county seat of Gratiot, have heard their country's call for men, to aid in upholding the nation's honor. Most of them are students in the high school there, and some of them seniors, have answered the call by enlisting in the United States navy.

The young men left this morning by way of Alma for Suginaw, and from there will leave for the east. Ithaca probably has never in its history honored young men as those were honored. The village held a celebration Wednesday night. Thursday morning the store windows along the main street were decorated in great style with the American flags and the red, white and blue bunting. Not content with that a twenty-five automobile, loaded with Ithacans joined the young men on their trip to Alma to take the New Marquette train.

At Alma the students of the Alma high school joined with those of Ithaca in doing honor to those young men. Sept. A. P. Schultz giving the students a recess for a time, that they might go to the train in a body and bid farewell to these young men, against whom the high school students here had competed in athletic contests.

Cheers from Ithacans and local high school students were given at the depot for each and every one of those noble young men who have responded to the country's call. It was a sight that will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it, and the nine young men cannot but be encouraged, and made better by thoughts of what those at home think of them while away fighting for their country's honor.

At the depot Superintendent Schultz of the local public schools gave a short address, which was indeed a credit to him. It gave great credit to the young men going forth to war to uphold the honor of the country, and expressed the hope that they might be of great service and that they might return home safe and sound. The address was preceded and followed by the singing of "America" and "Star Spangled Banner."

The Ithacans who left this morning were Watson McCall, Howard Burtchard, Peter McAdams, Ivan White, Mike Scott, Davis Summerville, Robert Rayburn and William Rayburn. The young men, who were seniors in Ithaca high school, are said to have received their diplomas, which they would have otherwise received in June.

"God's Country and the Woman"

is wonderful.

GETS SIXTY PRIZES

Local Poultry Fancier Had Great Suc-
cess at Four Shows.

Harrie Willard, local poultry fancier, probably won more prizes for his stock this year at four poultry shows than anyone else in this section of the state, or possibly in the entire state, for a like number of shows, and has sixty awards to show for the exhibitions that he made.

Willard displayed his stock at the Battle Creek, the Grand Rapids, the Ionia and the Alma poultry shows, and in all of them won a number of prizes. Four silver cups, twenty-one first prizes, twenty second prizes and fifteen third, fourth and fifth prizes are the honors that his poultry won. One of the cups was for the best cockerel in the English class, one for the best hen in the English class, one for the best hen in the entire show, and the fourth cup was for the most points in the entire show.

The poultry which the Alma fancier had in the various shows consisted of white and buff Orpingtons.

ONLY FOUR ENLIST

During the past week only four en-
listments have been made at the local
recruiting office and Alma boast of
only one of the young men who have
joined the colors to uphold national
honor.

Serius Gileo, living on Court street, is the lone Alma lad to enlist since war was declared. Ted Kress of Ithaca, Lyle Howe of Sumner and Guy Shank of Marion are the other. Gileo joined the medical corps, Howe, the field artillery; Kress, the signal corps, and Shank joined the infantry.

LA RUE TO LEAVE

It is reported that Superintendent LaRue of the St. Louis public schools has been selected by the school board at Wayne, Michigan, as superintendent of public school there next year. Superintendent Raycraft of the Wayne schools, who has been there for a number of years, is said to have made application for the position as superintendent at St. Louis.

DR. GARDNER TO GO

Alma Doctor Will Go to Front Be-
fore Many Months.

Dr. Cyrus B. Gardner of this city will be one of the six hundred doctors that the state of Michigan has been asked to have ready to join the army and he will be ready to go to the front, when a call is made for his services.

Many of the doctors who will go to the front were in Detroit the latter part of last week or the fore part of this week, making arrangements, and then returned to their homes to await the call. The doctors will be called out as they are needed, and it may be some months yet before a call is made for the services of Dr. C. B. Gardner.

Young and active doctors are being asked for in caring for the men of the army. Doctors under the age of forty-five years are those that the government wants. Dr. Gardner is under the age of forty-five and among those wanted, and his services will be given to his country when the army has increased to such a size that he is needed and a call made for him. It will not be many months, it is expected, before he will be called to the front.

"God's Country and the Woman" is wonderful.

YOUNG MAN HAD A NARROW ESCAPE

Doing Repair Work on Water
Wheel When Water Gates
Broke and Let in Flood.

William Bainbridge, an employee of the electrical department of the Alma Roller Mills, had a most narrow escape from death on Monday morning, while doing some repairing at the plant.

It seems that Bainbridge was repairing a piece from the waterwheel, in the race, the gates having been closed to hold back the water at the time. While in the flume, the gates gave way in some manner and the backed up water from the race was let into the flume where Bainbridge was working.

He quickly grasped hold of some timbers and clung to them in spite of the great pressure of the rushing water, and managed to keep his head above the flood that had been let loose upon him.

Other workmen at the plant did not happen to be around at the time and Bainbridge, finding that he could not get out of the flume alone, was forced to hang in the cold water, under the floor of the plant for about forty minutes, before workmen discovered his plight and with difficulty removed him from his perilous position.

He suffered considerably from the shock of the cold water, which poured about his body and was forced to give up his work for a couple of days, but is again able to be about his work at the plant.

"Salvation Joan"—Idlehour Sunday.

DEBATE FRIDAY

College Teams Will Meet Olivet and
Hope in Contests.

The annual triangular debate debate between Hope, Olivet and Alma college will be held on Friday night of this week, and it is expected that a hot fight will be put up in the debates that will be held at each of the three institutions.

Olivet college will debate with Alma at Olivet and with Hope at Holland, while Hope meets Alma here, the debate being held in the Alma college chapel. The subject is, "Resolved, That with Respect to Immigration that the United States should accord the same Treatment that is accorded the Citizens of European Nations."

The subject is a strong one, with plenty of chance for argument on each side and spirited contests should result.

Howard Burtch, Floyd Krueger and Thomas W. Wright will compose the negative team which will meet Olivet at Olivet. Charles Cramer will be the alternative. Linton Melvin, Carl Titus and Efford Beverly compose the team to debate against Hope here. Edwin Boyne will be alternate.

Both teams that the Maroon and Cream has are strong and Alma college is hoping for a double victory.

OPENS TAILOR SHOP

Mr. Gessler, an experienced tailor from the eastern states, has located in this city and on Saturday, April 14th, will open a first class tailoring shop in the Pollasky block. Mr. Gessler has secured rooms 15 to 17 in this block, and will be ready for the men who are seeking a good grade of made-to-order clothes at reasonable prices. Read his ad in this issue.

NIP STRIKE IN BUD

A strike among the ten workers on the city streets, with a demand for a half dollar increase in wages started on Tuesday morning of this week, but was quickly nipped in the bud. Three of the men left their work for good, when the increase did not come and two others took a half day vacation, after which they returned to work.

FIRST BASE BALL GAME IS FRIDAY

Coach Helmer Appears to
Have a Strong Team at
College This Season.

PLAY MT. PLEASANT INDIANS

Indians Are Strong and a Hard
Game is Expected to Re-
sult.

The Alma college baseball season will open on Friday of this week with the Alma college nine facing the strong Mt. Pleasant Indian team, coached by "Chief" Nevitt, the former league star.

Nevitt will have a fast team, well coached and trained, one that will give the Presbyterians a game right from the start. A bunch of veterans will come to Alma with Nevitt in the attempt to secure revenge for the victories that Alma has won in former years from the Government Indian school.

The prospects for the Alma college baseball team are easy, and a fine team is expected, but it is still a question as to what the lineup will be that Coach Helmer will send against the Redskins in the opening game of the season. It is certain to be the strongest team that Helmer can collect, as the Indians will be one of the strongest teams that Alma will meet.

There is every probability that the veterans on the team will get into the game in the opening battle, but some of the new comers will also see action in the forthcoming game.

The previous fight from Mariette, with, without a doubt, be found behind the plate for another season, although Zeig may get a chance to show what he can do, should Alma find the going easier than is now expected.

Captain "Bottles" Dewey is certain to twist a few with his portside wing, and get the honor for opening the season of 1917. Dewey is in good shape and has always been effective against the Indians. Boyne, the recruit twirler from Mariette, may also get a chance to do some batting, as he has been "holding fire" in practice.

First base may again be held by ex-Captain Eddie Johnston, but there is also a chance that Coach Helmer may decide on one of the recruits, all of whom have been showing good form in the practices so far held. Because of his pitching, Helmer would rather hold Johnston back and use someone else at this position, if it does not weaken the work at this sack.

Helbert will be located at second and Malcolm Smith will find a home for himself at short. It is expected that George Simminton, the youthful Merlette lad, will be located at the third sack and complete the infield. "Simmy" is fast and is rated as a better ball player than his brother, who formerly cavorted around this sack for Alma.

Hookman will be the biggest noise on the outfield. A crack fielder and fast on his feet, he is sure to hold down a place. His hitting ability promises to be a big aid to the Maroon and Cream. Seeley, Ardis, Vender and a few new men are still fighting for outfield position and it is questionable just what two men will complete the outfield.

This year's team will be far stronger than that of last season and it is expected that Alma will finish well up in the running for the M. I. A. A. title this year. Everyone should be out and see the men in action in the first game, which may be the hardest.

HIGH SCHOOL TO OPEN

Base Ball Season Will Be Opened
With Ithaca High.